

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancel)

2. (Currently Amended) The invention as in claim ~~418~~, wherein the slider member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said second end.

3. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~418~~, wherein the protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~418~~, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.

5-14. (Cancel)

15. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~4418~~, wherein the opposed interior sides of the notch is substantially parallel with respect to each other.

16. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~4418~~, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch are substantially planar.

17. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 4418, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch have generally rectangular configurations.

18. (Currently Amended) A closure device comprising:
interlocking fastening strips having first and second ends; and
a slider member movably installed upon the interlocking fastening strips, the
slider member facilitating the occlusion of the interlocking fastening strips when moved
towards the first end thereof, the slider member having a pair of spaced-apart side walls
which are positioned on opposite sides of the interlocking fastening strips, an
intermediate body portion between the side walls which is positioned upon the
interlocking fastening strips, and a notch formed therein which is adapted to engage a
cooperating protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at the first end
thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said first end;
wherein the notch has a generally rectangular configuration and a pair of opposed
interior sides and an intermediate portion therebetween ~~The invention set forth in claim~~
44, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch converge along substantially vertical internal corners.

19. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 4418, wherein the intermediate portion of the notch includes substantially vertical external corners.

20. (Cancel)

21. (Cancel)

22. A closure device comprising:
interlocking fastening strips having first and second ends; and

a slider member movably installed upon the interlocking fastening strips, the slider member facilitating the occlusion of the interlocking fastening strips when moved towards the first end thereof, the slider member having a pair of spaced-apart side walls which are positioned on opposite sides of the interlocking fastening strips, an intermediate body portion between the side walls which is positioned upon the interlocking fastening strips, and a notch formed therein which is adapted to engage a cooperating protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at the first end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said first end;

wherein the protrusion is substantially planar and has a pair of opposed exterior sides and an edge portion therebetween ~~The invention set forth in claim 21,~~ wherein the edge portion of the protrusion is inclined with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

23. (Original) The invention set forth in claim 22, wherein the edge portion of the protrusion slopes upwardly and outwardly with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

24. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~24~~²², wherein the opposed exterior sides of the protrusion are substantially parallel with respect to each other.

25. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~24~~²², wherein the opposed exterior sides of the protrusion are generally triangular in configuration.

26. (Cancel)

27. (Cancel)

28. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~26~~²⁹, wherein the opposed exterior sides of the protrusion flare outwardly with respect to each other and the interlocking fastening strip.

29. A closure device comprising:
interlocking fastening strips having first and second ends; and
a slider member movably installed upon the interlocking fastening strips, the
slider member facilitating the occlusion of the interlocking fastening strips when moved
towards the first end thereof, the slider member having a pair of spaced-apart side walls
which are positioned on opposite sides of the interlocking fastening strips, an
intermediate body portion between the side walls which is positioned upon the
interlocking fastening strips, and a notch formed therein which is adapted to engage a
cooperating protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at the first end
thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said first end;
wherein the protrusion formed on the interlocking fastening strip has a generally
wedge-shaped configuration and a pair of opposed exterior sides and an edge portion
therebetween.~~The invention set forth in claim 27,~~ wherein the edge portion of the
protrusion slopes upwardly and outwardly with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

30. (Cancel)

31. (Currently Amended) The invention as in claim ~~30~~51 wherein the slider member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said second end.

32. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~30~~51, wherein the protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

33. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 3051, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.

34-41. (Cancel)

42. (Cancel)

43. (Cancel)

44. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 4347, wherein the opposed interior sides of the notch is substantially parallel with respect to each other.

45. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 4347, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch are substantially planar.

46. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 4347, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch have generally rectangular configurations.

47. A storage container comprising:
a pair of complementary sheets;
a first fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of one sheet;
a second fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of the other sheet and
disposed to interlockingly engage the first fastening strip; and
a slider member movably disposed upon the first and second fastening strips, the
slider member facilitating the occlusion of the interlocking fastening when moved
towards a first end thereof, the slider member having a pair of spaced-apart side walls
which are positioned on opposite sides of the interlocking fastening strips, an
intermediate body portion between the two side walls which is positioned upon the

interlocking fastening strips, and a notch formed therein which engages a cooperating protrusion formed on the interlocking fastening strip at a first end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said first end;

wherein the notch has a generally rectangular configuration and a pair of opposed interior sides and an intermediate portion therebetween. The invention set forth in claim 43, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch converge along substantially vertical internal corners.

48. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 4347, wherein the intermediate portion of the notch includes substantially vertical external corners.

49. (Cancel)

50. (Cancel)

51. (Currently Amended) A storage container comprising:
a pair of complementary sheets;
a first fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of one sheet;
a second fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of the other sheet and
disposed to interlockingly engage the first fastening strip; and
a slider member movably disposed upon the first and second fastening strips, the
slider member facilitating the occlusion of the interlocking fastening when moved
towards a first end thereof, the slider member having a pair of spaced-apart side walls
which are positioned on opposite sides of the interlocking fastening strips, an
intermediate body portion between the two side walls which is positioned upon the
interlocking fastening strips, and a notch formed therein which engages a cooperating
protrusion formed on the interlocking fastening strip at a first end thereof to obstruct
movement of the slider member beyond said first end;

wherein the protrusion is substantially planar and has a pair of opposed exterior sides and an edge portion therebetween, ~~The invention set forth in claim 50,~~ wherein the edge portion of the protrusion is inclined with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

52. (Original) The invention set forth in claim 51, wherein the edge portion of the protrusion slopes upwardly and outwardly with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

53. (Currently Amended) A storage container comprising:
a pair of complementary sheets;
a first fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of one sheet;
a second fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of the other sheet and
disposed to interlockingly engage the first fastening strip; and
a slider member movably disposed upon the first and second fastening strips, the
slider member facilitating the occlusion of the interlocking fastening when moved
towards a first end thereof, the slider member having a pair of spaced-apart side walls
which are positioned on opposite sides of the interlocking fastening strips, an
intermediate body portion between the two side walls which is positioned upon the
interlocking fastening strips, and a notch formed therein which engages a cooperating
protrusion formed on the interlocking fastening strip at a first end thereof to obstruct
movement of the slider member beyond said first end;
wherein the protrusion is substantially planar and has a pair of opposed exterior sides and
an edge portion therebetween, ~~The invention set forth in claim 50,~~ wherein the opposed exterior sides of the protrusion are substantially parallel with respect to each other.

54-56. (Cancel)

57. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 55~~58~~, wherein the opposed exterior sides of the protrusion flare outwardly with respect to each other and the interlocking fastening strip.

58. (Currently Amended) A storage container comprising:
a pair of complementary sheets;
a first fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of one sheet;
a second fastening strip disposed along an edge portion of the other sheet and
disposed to interlockingly engage the first fastening strip; and
a slider member movably disposed upon the first and second fastening strips, the
slider member facilitating the occlusion of the interlocking fastening when moved
towards a first end thereof, the slider member having a pair of spaced-apart side walls
which are positioned on opposite sides of the interlocking fastening strips, an
intermediate body portion between the two side walls which is positioned upon the
interlocking fastening strips, and a notch formed therein which engages a cooperating
protrusion formed on the interlocking fastening strip at a first end thereof to obstruct
movement of the slider member beyond said first end; and

wherein the protrusion formed on the interlocking fastening strip has a pair of
opposed exterior sides and an edge portion therebetween and has a generally wedge-
shaped configuration. ~~The invention set forth in claim 56,~~ wherein the edge portion of
the protrusion slopes upwardly and outwardly with respect to the interlocking fastening
strip.

59. (Cancel)

60. (Currently Amended) The invention as in claim ~~59~~⁷⁶ wherein the slider
member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed
on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement
of the slider member beyond said second end.

61. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim ~~59~~⁷⁶, wherein the
protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between

opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

62. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 5976, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.

63-70. (Cancel)

71. (Cancel)

72. (Cancel)

73. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 7276, wherein the opposed interior sides of the notch is substantially parallel with respect to each other.

74. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 7276, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch are substantially planar.

75. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 7276, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch have generally rectangular configurations.

76. (Currently Amended) A slider member for facilitating occlusion of interlocking fastening strips when moved towards the first end of the fastening strips, the slider member comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart side walls which are adapted to be installed on opposite sides of interlocking fastening strips;

an intermediate body portion between the side walls which is adapted to be installed upon interlocking fastening strips; and

a notch formed therein which is adapted to engage a cooperating protrusion formed on interlocking fastening strip at a first end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said first end;

wherein the notch has a generally rectangular configuration and a pair of opposed interior sides and an intermediate portion therebetween. The invention set forth in claim 72, wherein the intermediate portion and the opposed interior sides of the notch converge along substantially vertical internal corners.

77. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 72/76, wherein the intermediate portion of the notch includes substantially vertical external corners.

78. (Cancel)

79. (Cancel)

80. (Currently Amended) A slider member for facilitating occlusion of interlocking fastening strips when moved towards the first end of the fastening strips, the slider member comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart side walls which are adapted to be installed on opposite sides of interlocking fastening strips;

an intermediate body portion between the side walls which is adapted to be installed upon interlocking fastening strips; and

a notch formed therein which is adapted to engage a cooperating protrusion formed on interlocking fastening strip at a first end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said first end;

wherein the protrusion is substantially planar and has a pair of opposed exterior sides and an edge portion therebetween. The invention set forth in claim 79, wherein the edge portion of the protrusion is inclined with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

81. (Original) The invention set forth in claim 80, wherein the edge portion of the protrusion slopes upwardly and outwardly with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

82. (Cancel)

83. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 79~~80~~, wherein the opposed exterior sides of the protrusion are generally triangular in configuration.

84. (Cancel)

85. (Cancel)

86. (Currently Amended) A slider member for facilitating occlusion of interlocking fastening strips when moved towards the first end of the fastening strips, the slider member comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart side walls which are adapted to be installed on opposite sides of interlocking fastening strips;

an intermediate body portion between the side walls which is adapted to be installed upon interlocking fastening strips; and

a notch formed therein which is adapted to engage a cooperating protrusion formed on interlocking fastening strip at a first end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said first end;

wherein the protrusion formed on the interlocking fastening strip has a generally wedge-shaped configuration and a pair of opposed exterior sides and an edge portion therebetween, The invention set forth in claim 84, wherein the opposed exterior sides of the protrusion flare outwardly with respect to each other and the interlocking fastening strip.

87. (Currently Amended) The invention set forth in claim 85~~86~~, wherein the edge portion of the protrusion slopes upwardly and outwardly with respect to the interlocking fastening strip.

88-92. (Cancel)

93. (New) The invention as in claim 22, wherein the slider member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said second end.

94. (New) The invention set forth in claim 22, wherein the protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

95. (New) The invention set forth in claim 22, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.

96. (New) The invention as in claim 29, wherein the slider member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said second end.

97. (New) The invention set forth in claim 29, wherein the protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

98. (New) The invention set forth in claim 29, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.

99. (New) The invention as in claim 58, wherein the slider member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said second end.

100. (New) The invention set forth in claim 58, wherein the protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

101. (New) The invention set forth in claim 58, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.

102. (New) The invention as in claim 80, wherein the slider member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said second end.

103. (New) The invention set forth in claim 80, wherein the protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

104. (New) The invention set forth in claim 80, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.

105. (New) The invention as in claim 86, wherein the slider member includes a second notch which is adapted to engage a second protrusion formed on one of the interlocking fastening strips at a second end thereof to obstruct movement of the slider member beyond said second end.

106. (New) The invention set forth in claim 86, wherein the protrusion includes opposed exterior sides which are adapted to become wedged between opposed interior sides of the notch to restrict disengagement of the slider member from the interlocking fastening strip when the slider member is moved toward the first end thereof.

107. (New) The invention set forth in claim 86, wherein the notch of the slider member is formed in the intermediate body portion thereof.